



HASC Briefs

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HASC Leads Los Angeles City Hospitals in Opposition of Exclusive Waste Franchise Proposal

HASC is urging hospital CEOs, government relations representatives and facility directors from hospitals within the city of Los Angeles to formally oppose the *Final Implementation Plan for Exclusive Commercial and Multifamily Franchise Hauling System*, prepared by the Bureau of Sanitation, at this week's City Council meeting. Hospital representatives are testifying in favor of a hospital exemption.

The reasons for opposition: The plan inevitably increases contracting costs with no added

benefit in terms of service and improved efficiency. Added benefit is important to area hospitals that are seeking to identify operational savings imperative in order to offset provider reimbursement cuts mandated by the Affordable Care Act to finance health insurance expansion across the nation.

Another reason HASC and its member hospitals oppose the *Final Implementation Plan* is because it excludes a comprehensive analysis as to how the hospital's concerns have been adequately addressed. Yet the Bureau in the same report recommends that

hospitals be included in the exclusive franchise. In making this decision, the Bureau proposes an RFP to solicit vendor solutions that reinforce its recommendation, at the expense of hospitals.

For this proposal, HASC secured an exemption for the following items: medical, hazardous, radioactive, pharmaceutical waste, and construction and demolition.

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May 6 Event Will Focus on Hospice and Palliative Care

The CSU Institute for Palliative Care, in partnership with the Coalition for Compassionate Care of California, presents *Building Bridges, Building Connections*, a workshop and community dialogue to focus on building bridges toward greater cultural sensitivity while also facilitating connections between professionals and members of diverse communities.

The event is intended for hospice and palliative care professionals and health care leaders in South Orange County, Southwestern Riverside County as well as San Diego. It will take place Monday, May 6, from

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the California Center for the Arts in Escondido.

As a part of this one-day event, participants will:

- Define cultural competency, cultural humility and cultural dignity in the context of health care
- Investigate the role that culture and ethnicity play in palliative and end-of-life care
- Critique their own cultural biases
- Discuss perspectives, barriers, issues and opportunities relating to hospice and palliative care with leaders

from Southern California's diverse communities

- Provide feedback on the palliative care curriculum planned for a new CSUSM Certificate in Cultural Competency in Health Care

Register online at http://www.csusm.edu/el/palliativecare/buildingbridges/index.html?utm_source=Building+Bridges+New&utm_campaign=cc&utm_medium=email.

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Wellness Conference Registration in Full Swing

HASC will host its third Health Care Provider Wellness Conference, a dynamic gathering of wellness leaders and decision makers from across health care settings, June 13-14. The conference explores ways to improve health habits and implement cost-effective health and wellness programs for employees within our hospitals and health systems.

More than 150 wellness professionals are expected to attend the conference, hosted this year at the Westin San Diego. Special topics include: nutrition, diet and obesity;

the ROI of wellness programs; starting and sustaining an effective wellness program; and combatting worker fatigue.

The conference is supported by the Hospital Council of Northern and Central California, the Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties, and the generosity of our event sponsors to date:

Gold

Cigna Healthcare
Venbrook Insurance Services

Silver

GlobalFit

Bronze

Mayo Clinic
Bolton & Company
Keenan & Associates
Blue Shield of California

Sponsorship opportunities are still available. For more information, please contact Lu-Shonda Johnson-Wilson, (213) 538-0705. Conference registration is available online at www.hasc.org/2013WellnessConference.

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Learn About Patient Care Transitions to Reduce Readmissions at Upcoming Webinar

Registration is currently open for Improving *Patient Care Transitions to Reduce Readmissions – A Multifaceted Approach*, a webinar scheduled for Thursday, June 20, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Ideal for chief medical officers/physician leaders; chief nursing officers/nurse leaders; hospitalists; case managers and discharge planners, the session will be led by Dr. Eric Coleman, Director of the Colorado Care Transitions Program, and will describe a multifaceted approach that has proven to be effective and include the key steps to operationalize true patient-centered care along the continuum.

Participants will:

- Identify the central goal of transitional care

- Describe the challenges hospitals face in reducing readmissions
- Identify a seven-pronged approach to improving quality and safety during care transitions
- Learn the key steps to operationalize true patient-centered care
- Learn what the future holds with respect to new initiatives aimed at reducing hospital readmissions

The session is sponsored by HASC and the Hospital Council of Northern California. Program cost is \$200 for HASC members, \$275 for associate members and \$350 for nonmembers.

Register online at <https://www.signup4.net/Public/ap.aspx?EID=IMPR23E>.

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PDS University—Continuous Revenue Improvement

In this 20-minute webinar on April 26, learn ways PDS can help you identify revenue opportunities, set measurable goals, track those goals, and take meaningful next steps. We will also talk about ways to share PDS data throughout your organization to improve your overall revenue strategy.

Friday, April 26, 11:00 a.m.
To register: <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/267082794>

For more upcoming events, go to
<http://www.hasc.org/calendar>.

Recent Events

On April 18, the Fontana Medical Center held a VIP Grand Opening Reception in anticipation of the opening of the new Kaiser Permanente Fontana Hospital on May 7. The event was also a celebration of Kaiser Permanente's 70-year history in Fontana; the first Kaiser Permanente hospital in Southern California opened at the Kaiser Steel Mill in Fontana in 1943.

The official ribbon-cutting took place in front of the new seven-story, 482,078-square foot hospital. An array of galleries included Nursing Attire through the Decades, 70 Years of History, and a Kaiser Car Display.

HASC is also celebrating history with its 90th anniversary this year. A special commemorative publication will be available at the Annual Meeting, May 8-10 at the St. Regis Monarch Beach Resort.

